

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO*

EXCERPTS FROM OUR STATE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Vol. VII, No. 12, July, 1909

From Some Editorial Notes:

The American Medical Association Meeting.—The annual meeting of the Association, held this year at Atlantic City, was remarkable only for the fact that it seemed to crystallize the general feeling of approval of those policies of the Association which have brought forth such a deluge of criticism from certain questionable quarters. . . .

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The New Officers.—When it came to the election of officers, there seemed to be even more than usual unanimity of opinion in the American Medical Association House of Delegates. There was no contest over any office save that of one of the vice-presidents, and in this instance the feeling was entirely friendly. Dr. William H. Welch of Johns Hopkins was the unanimous choice for president; he has served the Association for a number of years as a trustee and has the confidence and respect of every member of the Association. . . .

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Place of Meeting.—The delegates from California to the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association did everything in their power to secure the election of Los Angeles for the place of the next annual session; but it was not to be. . . . So St. Louis was chosen. But the probabilities are that, should California extend an invitation next year, the Association will come to our state. It last met in California in 1894.

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Gather Energy.—Just because it is summer time, and vacation time, don't let all your interest in and enthusiasm for your society work dissipate into thin nothingness. Remember that it is up to our medical organizations to see that the people of this state get proper public health laws and proper protection. . . .

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Take a Vacation.—That is just what the editor is going to do, and what he advises every one of you to do; take a *real* vacation, even if it is for only ten days or two weeks. . . .

From an article on "Fat as a Disturbing Factor in Infant Feeding" by Langley Porter, M.D., San Francisco.

The disturbances due to fat may be classed as disturbances in the breast-fed and disturbances in the bottle-fed. These disturbances may further be divided into those evidenced by indigestion, either gastric or intestinal, and those evidenced by disturbances of metabolism. . . . With Doctor Chipman I have seen one such case, which died in the Lane Hospital, and one other was referred to me by Dr. Walter Coffey.

The Interrelations of Glands with Internal Secretion.—Since Brown-Séquard, guided by the fatal results of the extirpation of the suprarenal glands, first established the idea of internal secretion, the physiological and clinical significance of the function of the ductless glands has been the subject of great controversy. . . . Clinical and experimental data pointed to the fact that the product of these internal secretions regulated cer-

* This column strives to mirror the work and aims of colleagues who bore the brunt of society work some twenty-five years ago. It is hoped that such presentation will be of interest to both old and new members.

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BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA*

By CHARLES B. PINKHAM, M. D.
Secretary-Treasurer

News Items

"The Grand Jury's attack on alleged racketeers in health protective societies received a new impetus today, when indictments were returned against H. N. Duhem, head of the Associated Health Service, and Dr. A. M. Ryan, listed as a medical employee of the organization. Two alleged victims of the society were named—Mrs. Dora Brady, 29 Belcher Street, and Vida J. Knoll, both of whom were denied aid, after paying their membership dues. . . ." (San Francisco *Call-Bulletin*, June 1, 1934.)

"Two more indictments growing out of the so-called 'health racket' were voted by the County Grand Jury last night. Those named in the indictments were L. V. Reed and Joe Bloom, manager and salesman, respectively, of the United Health Services, with offices at 209 Post Street. The charges were conspiracy to obtain money under false pretenses. Several witnesses were presented by Leslie C. Gillen, Assistant District Attorney, in charge of the Fraud Bureau. Meanwhile, from Sacramento, according to the Associated Press, came word that R. A. Sewall, sought since December in connection with the 'health racket' in Oakland, was arrested in a rooming house in that city last night." (San Francisco *Chronicle*, June 8, 1934.)

"The Federal Trade Commission charges the Bayer Company, Inc., of New York today with misrepresentations in the sale of its aspirin tablets. The Commission said, 'There are some persons by whom Bayer tablets may not safely be taken, even in small or moderate doses.' The company is given until July 13 to show why the Commission should not issue an order requiring the company to desist from alleged misrepresentations. The Commission's announcement said: 'Among the practices are representations in advertising tending to mislead the ultimate buyers into believing that only Bayer aspirin is genuine aspirin, that aspirin sold by its competitors is not aspirin, is not as beneficial to the users as Bayer's aspirin and is counterfeit or spurious.' (Associated Press dispatch, dated Washington, June 13, 1934, printed in the *Sacramento Bee*, June 13, 1934.)

"A chiropractor by any other name is still a chiropractor, Attorney-General U. S. Webb ruled yesterday. He informed C. C. Hunt, secretary of the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners, that Wilbur W. Walp, who had signed a death certificate in Los Angeles as a 'chirothesian,' may be prosecuted for practicing chiropractic without a license." (San Francisco *News*, June 15, 1934.)

"Radio advertising must broadcast truthful assertions and eliminate misleading, extravagant claims, the Federal Trade Commission ruled today. The Commission declared the same standards would be applied to radio advertisers that long have been exacted of newspaper and magazine advertisers. It made public a letter to broadcasting stations, which said: 'Whenever statements occur in commercial announcements which appear to be false and misleading or otherwise constitute an unfair method of competition in com-

* The office addresses of the California State Board of Medical Examiners are printed in the roster on advertising page 6.

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